

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed May 28, 2003. Claims 2, 4-7, 9-14, 16, 18, 21 and 23-27 are pending in the application and were rejected. Applicants respond to the rejection of the claims and specification as set forth below.

Response to objection to the specification

The specification was objected to on the basis that the specification does not include a brief description of Fig. 10. Applicants amended their specification in an Amendment filed January 15, 2002 to include a description of FIG. 10. By this Amendment, Applicants amend Page 4 of the specification to include a description of Fig. 10.

The specification was also objected to on the basis of that the specification is unclear with respect to method steps set forth in claims 18, 21 and 26. Claim 18 recites a method of fabricating a glide head comprising the steps of slicing glide bodies from a wafer and depositing thermal transducers on the plurality of glide bodies sliced from the wafer in contrast to prior fabrication methods where transducer are deposited or formed on the trailing edge at the wafer level. Applicants' specification discloses a fabrication process where thermal transducers are deposited on glide bodies sliced from the wafer as set forth on Page 14, lines 4-16 of Applicants' specification to form a thermal transducer on a raised bearing surface in contrast to the trailing edge. Thus, the specification contains a written description of the invention as required under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claim 21 is dependent upon claim 18 and recites the method steps of fabricating an air bearing on a plurality of glide bodies sliced from the wafer and depositing thermal transducers on the raised bearing surfaces of the plurality of

glide bodies. Applicants' specification page 14, lines 4-16 disclose steps of claim 21 and accordingly, the subject matter of claim 21 is clear in view of Applicants' specification. Claim 26 is dependent upon claim 16 and recites a wafer level fabrication process including steps of fabricating a raised bearing surface and depositing a thermal transducer on the raised bearing surface which is properly disclosed in Applicants' specification, Page 14, lines 21-28. Based upon the foregoing Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Response to claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 18, 21 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification. As set forth above, Applicants' specification fully supports the subject matter claimed and accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 18, 21 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 are respectfully requested.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting an essential structural cooperative relationship of the elements. Claims 4-7, 9-14, 16 and 23 were rejected based on their dependency upon claim 2. Claim 16 is not dependent upon claim 2. Applicants have amended claim 2 to recite a glide test system comprising a glide test apparatus including a glide head having a glide body as set forth in amended claim 2 and claim 4-7, 9-14 and 23 have been amended to depend upon new claim 28. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2, 4-7, 9-14, 16 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, are respectfully requested.

Response to claim objections

Claims 2, 4-7, 9-14 and 23 were objected to on the basis that the preamble of claims 4-7, 9-14 and 23 is not consistent with the subject matter of claim 2. Claims 4-7, 9-14 and 23 have been amended to depend upon claim 28, which is believed proper under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph.

Response to claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 2, 4-6, 10-11, 14, 16, 23 and 25-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Boutaghou et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,808,184. Claim 2, as amended, recites *inter alia* a glide body including a leading edge, a trailing edge and a contoured disc facing surface having a raised bearing surface elevated from a recessed bearing surface and a thermal transducer including a surface portion along a raised bearing surface and a thickness portion forming a contour profile of the contoured disc facing surface relative to the raised bearing surface and the recessed bearing surface which is not taught nor suggested by Boutaghou.

Claims 4-6, 10-11, 14 and 23 as amended, depend upon new claim 28 which recites *inter alia* a glide body including a contoured disc facing surface having a raised bearing surface elevated from a recessed bearing surface and at least thermal transducer having a surface portion extending along the raised bearing surface and a thickness portion intersecting the surface portion and the thickness portion forming a contour profile of the contoured disc facing surface relative to the raised bearing surface and the recessed bearing surface which is not taught nor suggested by Boutaghou. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 2, 4-6, 10-11, 14 and 23.

Claim 16 and 26 have been amended to recite *inter alia* the step of depositing a thermal transducer to form a surface portion providing a glide interface to detect asperities and a thickness portion forming a contour profile of a disc facing surface of the glide head which as amended is not taught nor suggested by Boutaghou.

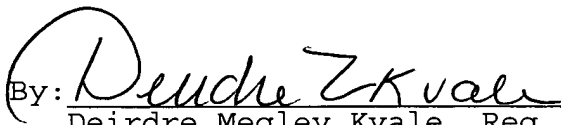
Claim 25 is a means-plus-function claim which is interpreted to include the corresponding structure disclosed in Applicants' specification and equivalents. Boutaghou does not teach or suggest the corresponding structure disclosed in Applicants' specification and the Office Action does not set forth a *prima facie* basis to establish the required equivalency pursuant to *In re Donaldson*, 29 U.S.P.Q.2d 1845 (Fed. Cir. 1994) and the Supplemental Examination Guidelines of June 2000.

Claim 27 has been amended to recite *inter alia* a conductive pad on the trailing edge and a conductive strip which as set forth with the recited elements of the claim is not taught nor suggested by Boutaghou.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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